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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Mark A. Osele
Group Art Unit 1734
Applicants Naoyuki Tani et al.
Application No. 09/786,001
Confirmation No. 6419
Filed : June 4, 2001
For : WORKPIECE RETAINER AND METHOD FOR
ATTACHING/DETACHING WORKPIECE BY USING THE
SAME

New York, New York 10020
May 2, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in reply to the April 8, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this reply before the expiration of the shortened statutory period for this reply - May 8, 2003 - and thus no extension fee is due.

Please amend the application as follows: